SIERRA VIDEO SYSTEMS

G.R.I.P. Router Software V3.1.0

Quick Start Guide

Quick Start Guide

sierravideosystems

A KRAMER ELECTRONICS COMPANY

G.R.I.P. ROUTER SOFTWARE

Quick Start Guide

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Overview

G.R.I.P. (Graphical Router Interface Program) is a Graphics User Interface, (GUI), based control system which can program and control most functions in Sierra Video Systems' (SVS) serial controlled routing switchers. This includes switchers from the Manzanita family (with serial control) through the large-scale Sequoia switchers.

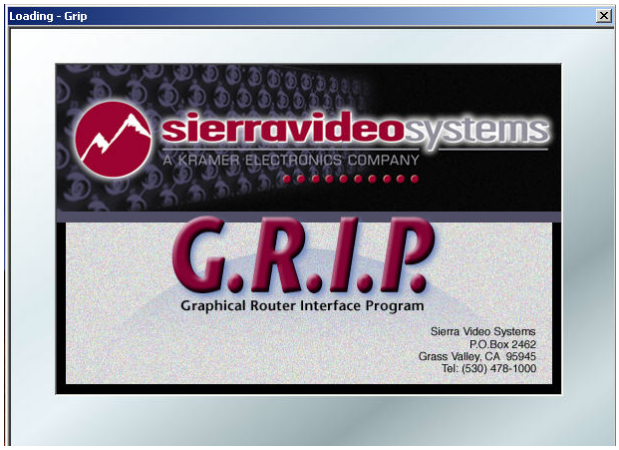
G.R.I.P. allows users the ability to name sources and destinations, levels, router configuration, router "mapping", and set up personalities of individual control panels. Likewise, G.R.I.P. provides graphical communication with the router processor eliminating the need for antiquated terminal communication.

G.R.I.P. allows users to build and execute up to 40 "salvos" that can be accessed using SVS programmable control panels, as well as access from the G.R.I.P. screen itself.

A router database is built in G.R.I.P. and copies can be stored and reinstalled in case of catastrophic failure of the router or PC.

All routing switchers are simple devices in concept but once a system is developed, control and configuration can be a tedious and confusing task. G.R.I.P. simplifies the configuration and control of your switcher as well as retaining data stored in the switcher in case of failure or processor software updates.

The G.R.I.P. functions are spread throughout the PC environment including the Window registry and systems directory.



Chapter

2

Installation

Operating system requirements

P III or better
128 M Ram
1024x768 monitor and video card
Windows 98 or newer
100 M disk space
Set the PC video display to **1024 by 768** pixels, High color (16 bit), small fonts.
If large fonts are used, many GRIP labels will be clipped.

G.R.I.P. requires router software version 7.01 or newer to be installed. If an earlier version is installed and running, please contact the factory for help in the installation or you may experience the loss of user data such as Input/Output names. Older versions of router software do not support all G.R.I.P. functions.

Insert CD ROM (or download exe from the Sierra Video.com web site) and Double-Click on the “Setup.EXE” icon. Read and accept the software license. Please browse the “Read Me” file for information on the installation.

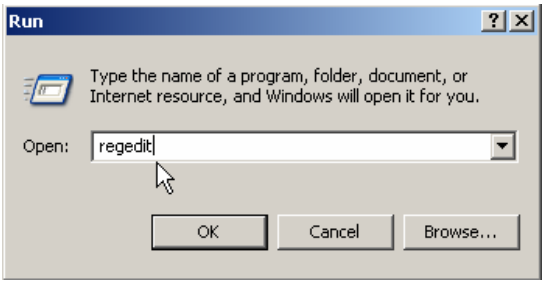
For G.R.I.P. to work properly, an RS232 serial Comport is required to interface to the routing switcher. Earlier versions of switchers may not have the standard RS232 connector to plug into the “PC” serial port using a standard cable. Please check the router’s manual for the RS232 pin connections of your switcher.

If there is difficulty in Comport selection, please call technical support at SVS. Comport parameters can be modified at any time within G.R.I.P. under “Routing switcher Configuration”, “Communications Setup” or by running Regedit.exe and modifying the “Comport” parameters.

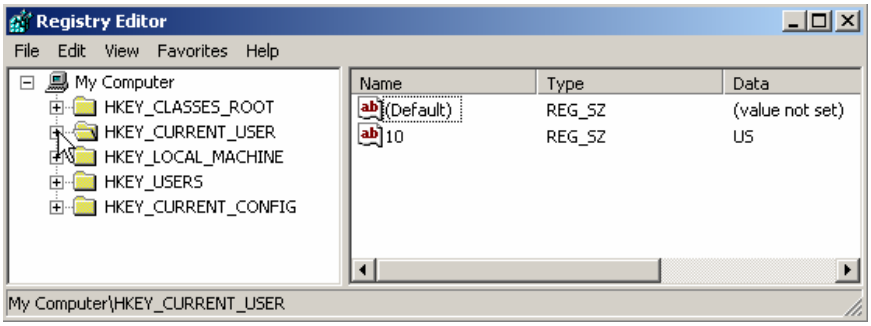
GRIP Upgrades

It is recommended that you save a copy of your current database before installing a newer version of GRIP over an earlier version. See the section on Database Management of this manual, or contact the factory for assistance on locating the database in GRIP versions 2.1.5 or earlier.

Pay close attention to installations over earlier versions of G.R.I.P. as changes may require different tables in the database. If an “ODBC” error is displayed, the earlier version of GRIP that was installed has a different database path than the newer version you have installed. This can be corrected by editing the data path in the PC’s registry. First, select “Run” from the start menu and type “regedit” in the window.



Select “OK”. The Registry Editor will open.



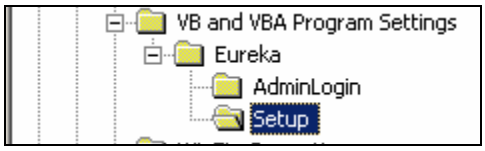
Click on the “+” next to HKEY_CURRENT_USER.

Click on the “+” next to Software.

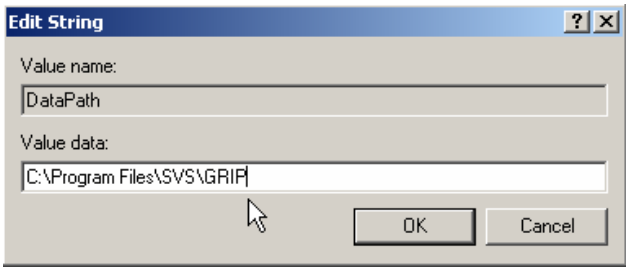
Click on the “+” next to VB and VBA Program Settings.

Click on the “+” next to Eureka.

Click on the folder “Setup”.



In the window on the right, locate “DataPath” in the Name column. If the datapath shown on the right (in the Data column) does not say C:\Program Files\SVS\GRIP, double click on the ICON next to “DataPath” and the correct path in the Value data window.



PC Com Port Connection

SVS routing switchers are shipped from the factory with the baud rate set at 9600 Baud. The Serial cable should be installed into the “Host” port on the back of the switcher and Com Port 1 on the PC.

The router’s processor is shipped from the factory with the default settings. Please see the router’s manual for more information regarding processor dipswitch settings.

SVS routing switchers use only 3 pins of a standard 9 pin D serial cable. In most cases an “off the shelf” one-to-one cable may be used. Refer to the router’s user’s guide for correct serial connection on the router host port.

PC Serial Cable Connections	
Pin	RS-232
1	Not Used
2	Transmit
3	Receive
4	Not Used
5	Ground
6	Not Used
7	Not Used
8	Not Used
9	Not Used

Note:

Some versions of Windows do not allow GRIP to turn off the function of pin 8 on your PC. It may be necessary to remove pin 8 from the serial cable in order for GRIP to perform adequately.

If pin 8 is an issue, the following message will display;

Cabling problem with Pin 8 RS232, please check cabling, exiting Grip & switching to AutoBaud Check.

Chapter

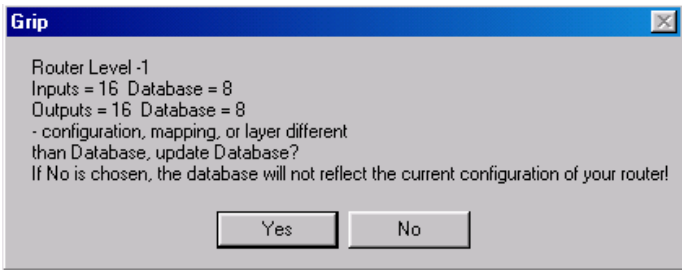
3

Quick Start

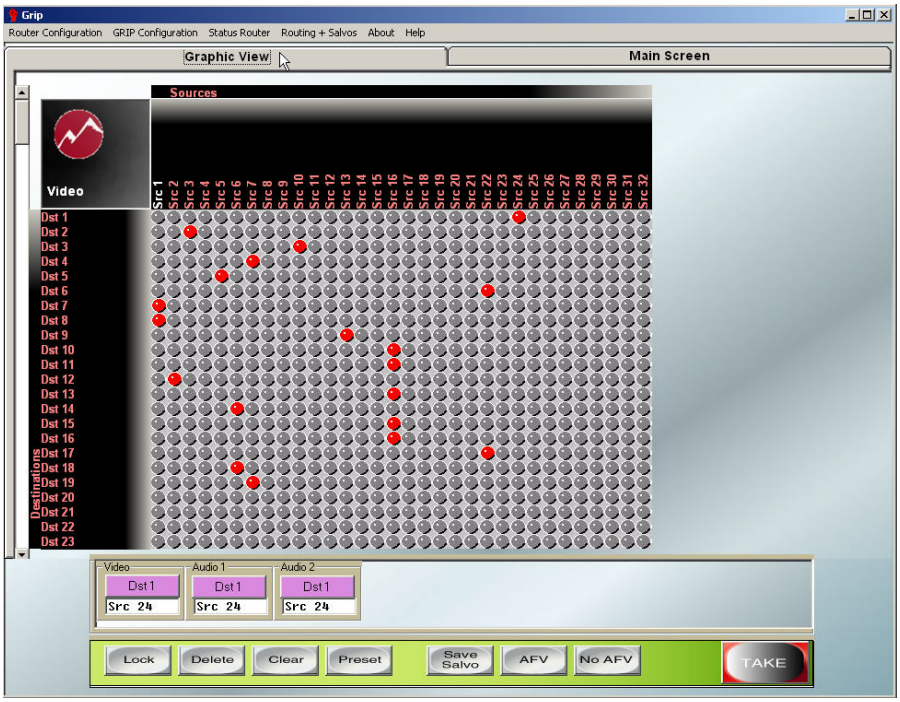
This Section covers the most often used router configurations. Details of GRIP router configurations can be found in the GRIP User's Guide.

Match the GRIP database to the router's configuration.

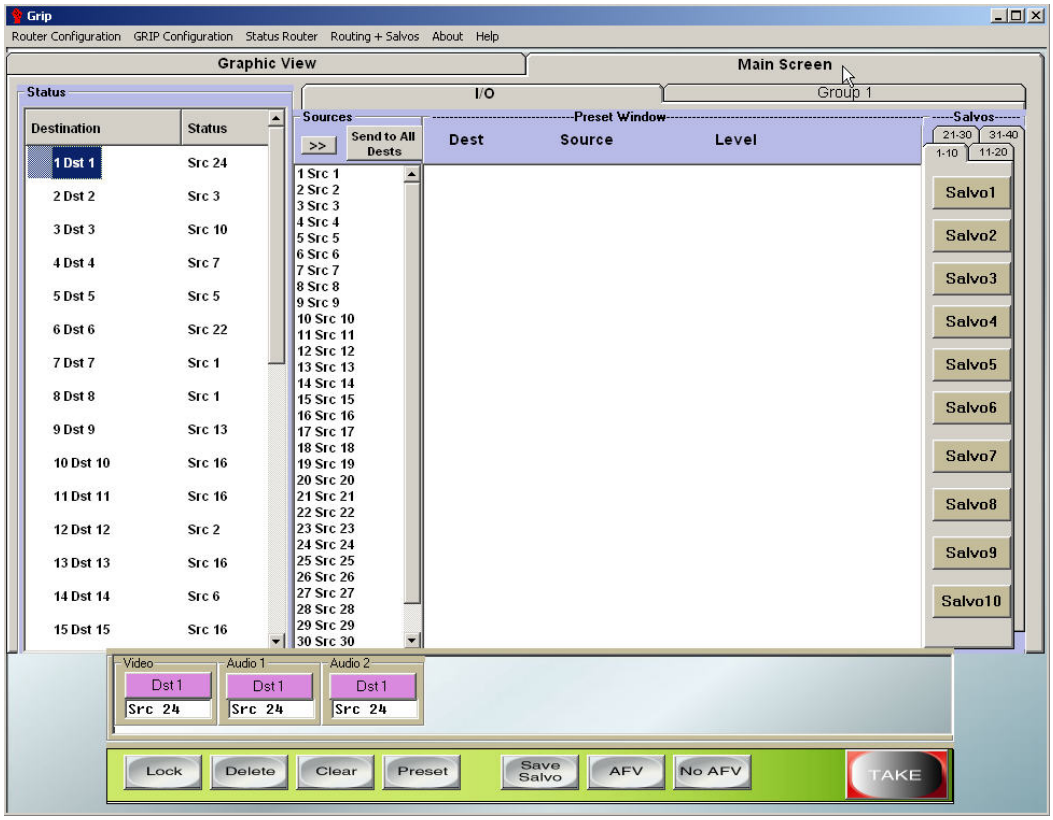
GRIP contains a default database. The GRIP database must read and store the size of your router before you can proceed with configuration.
Double click on the GRIP icon. The program will start.


Grip
Router Level -1
Inputs = 16 Database = 8
Outputs = 16 Database = 8
- configuration, mapping, or layer different
than Database, update Database?
If No is chosen, the database will not reflect the current configuration of your router!
Yes
No

Select "Yes" to all messages. The Graphic View screen will open.

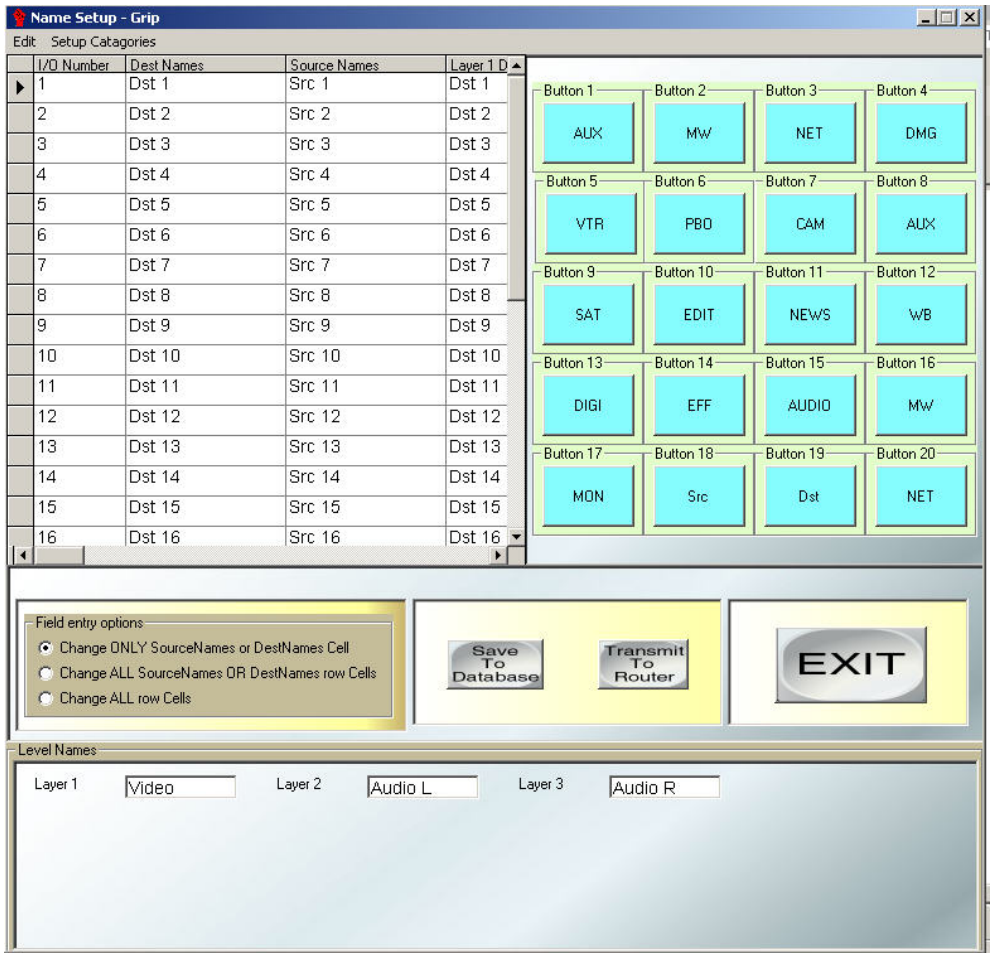


Select the “Main Screen” tab.



Set up I/O and level names

Select “Names Setup” from the Router Configuration drop down menu.

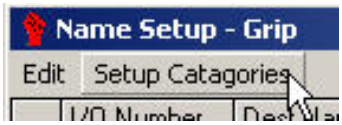

Name Setup - Grip
Edit
Setup Catagories
I/O Number
Dest Names
Source Names
Layer 1 D
1 Dst 1 Src 1 Dst 1
2 Dst 2 Src 2 Dst 2
3 Dst 3 Src 3 Dst 3
4 Dst 4 Src 4 Dst 4
5 Dst 5 Src 5 Dst 5
6 Dst 6 Src 6 Dst 6
7 Dst 7 Src 7 Dst 7
8 Dst 8 Src 8 Dst 8
9 Dst 9 Src 9 Dst 9
10 Dst 10 Src 10 Dst 10
11 Dst 11 Src 11 Dst 11
12 Dst 12 Src 12 Dst 12
13 Dst 13 Src 13 Dst 13
14 Dst 14 Src 14 Dst 14
15 Dst 15 Src 15 Dst 15
16 Dst 16 Src 16 Dst 16
Button 1 AUX
Button 2 MW
Button 3 NET
Button 4 DMG
Button 5 VTR
Button 6 PBO
Button 7 CAM
Button 8 AUX
Button 9 SAT
Button 10 EDIT
Button 11 NEWS
Button 12 WB
Button 13 DIGI
Button 14 EFF
Button 15 AUDIO
Button 16 MW
Button 17 MON
Button 18 Src
Button 19 Dst
Button 20 NET
Field entry options
Change ONLY SourceNames or DestNames Cell
Change ALL SourceNames OR DestNames row Cells
Change ALL row Cells
Save To Database
Transmit To Router
EXIT
Level Names
Layer 1 Video
Layer 2 Audio L
Layer 3 Audio R

Category Setup

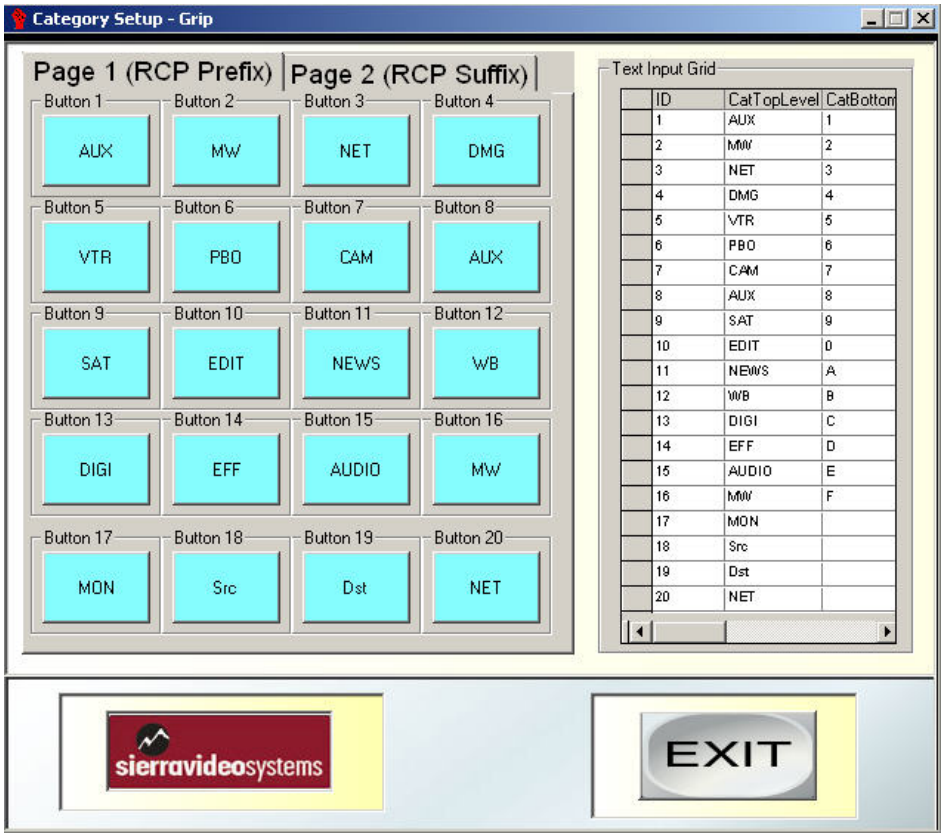
The first step in the names process is to setup categories.

Categories are the user defined prefix and suffix.

Select “Category Setup” from the Names Setup screen menu:



The Following screen will be displayed:



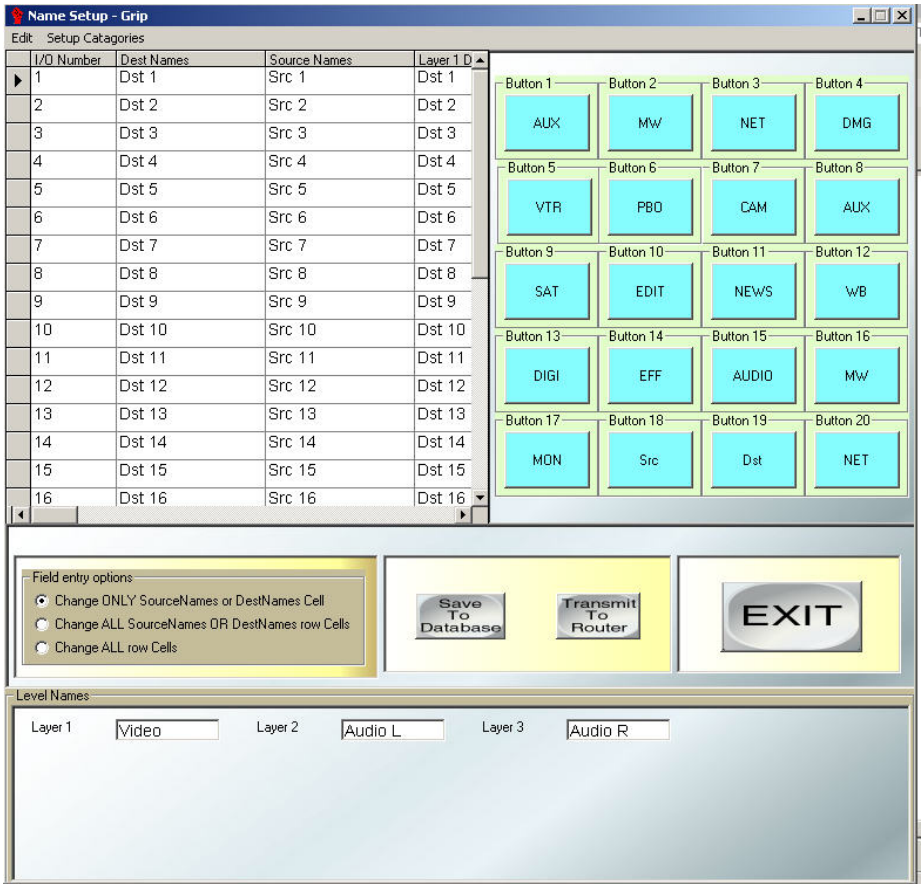
This window creates and manages the Categories that are used in the Names window and the Control Panel setup screen.

Two pages of 10 categories are available to be entered. Page 1 is for the Prefix; page 2 is for the Suffix. Select the button number to be entered in the text input grid and type the name into the field. This utility is useful when naming Sources and Destinations in the router. See “Names Setup.”

Entering new text in the excel-like display modifies categories. All changes are immediate and are set in the Database upon any mouse or tab action.

Names

After entering your prefix and suffix, you are ready to name the inputs and outputs. Exit the Category Setup screen.



"Field Entry Options" determines how many fields in the spreadsheet get changed *after* an entry. Normally all "Levels" of a source or destination have the same name with a suffix added to the name, such as, VTR1 – (virtual) Dest Name, VTR1Aud R – (Level 2 VTR Audio Right), etc. The Field entry has the following three options:

Change *ONLY* Source (input) Names or Dest (output) Names Cell – this modifies only the selected cell.

Change *ALL* Source Names OR Dest Names Cells – this modifies every other cell, which corresponds to Sources OR Destinations.

Change *ALL* row Cells – this modifies every cell, which corresponds to both Sources AND Destinations.

To enter a name, click on the name cell to be changed, highlighting the cell. Click on the category button of the Prefix you want to use. The category buttons will change to page 2 allowing entry of a Suffix. Click on a Suffix button. The buttons will stay on page 2 until you click on a different cell completing your name entry.

As an example, if you wanted to enter "VTR 11", click on the cell to be named. Click on the category button "VTR". "VTR" will be entered in the selected cell. The buttons will change to page 2. Click on The button programmed 1 twice. The cell should now display "VTR 11".

The names window is an Excel type display for easy alphanumeric name entry. Downloading names to a large routing switcher can take up to a couple of minutes, depending on the switcher size. A status bar with a cancel button is displayed as downloading begins. All downloads are happening in the background mode in the routing switcher, with routing given the highest priority, hence adding delays to the name download.

This window has the ability to accept a “Paste” from an Excel spreadsheet.

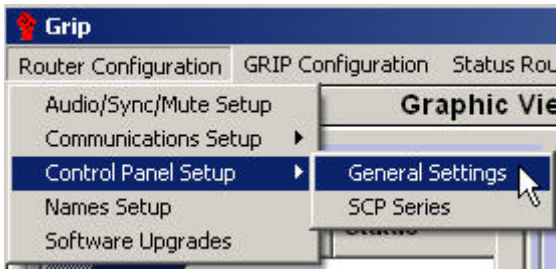
Enter the Dst (Destination), Src (Source), and level names.

“Save to Database” Saves the names to the GRIP database only (This is for working offline”.

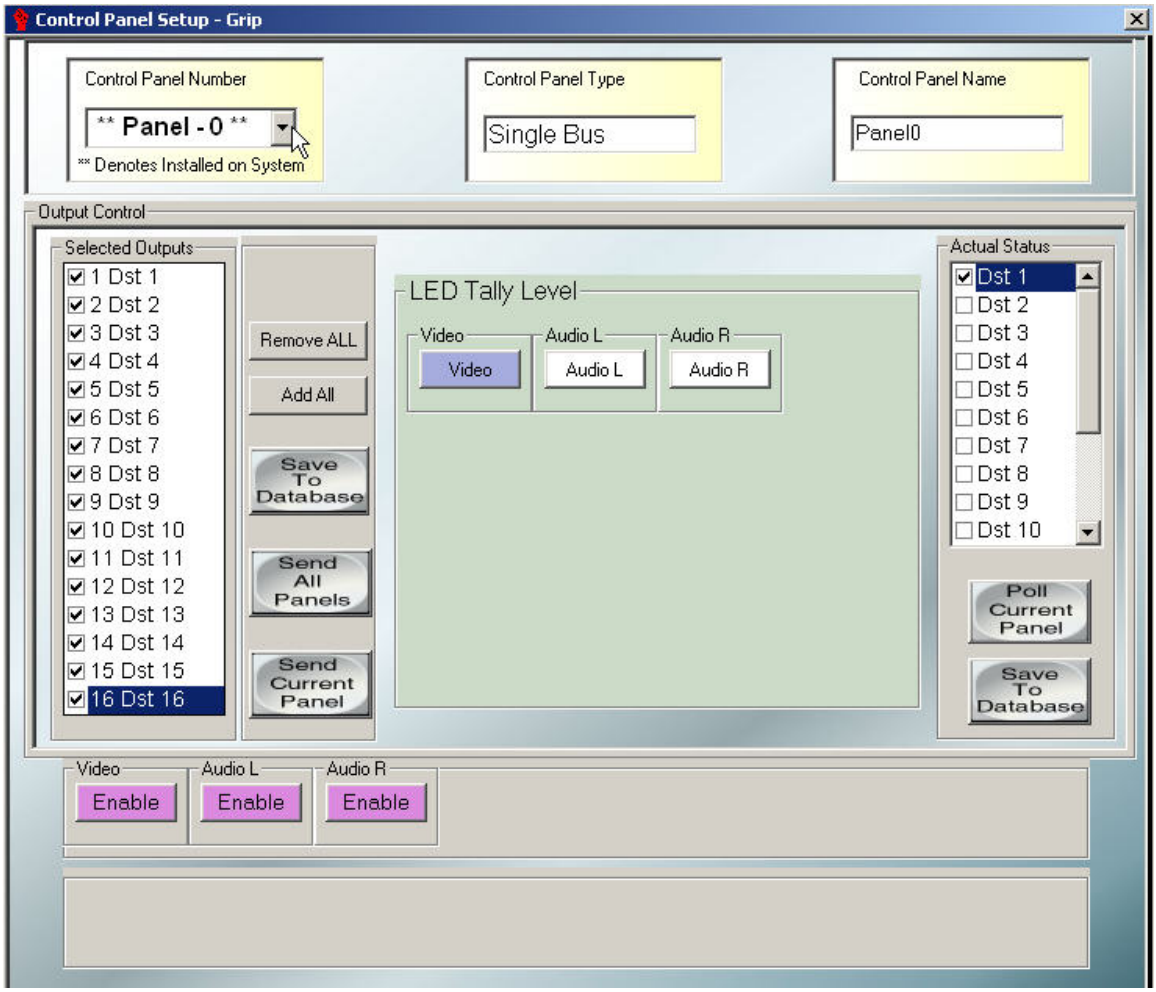
“Transmit to Router” Sends the names to the router’s processor and saves the information to the GRIP database.

Set up control panels

This section applies to **all** control panels using RS-485 (3 pin mini XLR connector) communication.

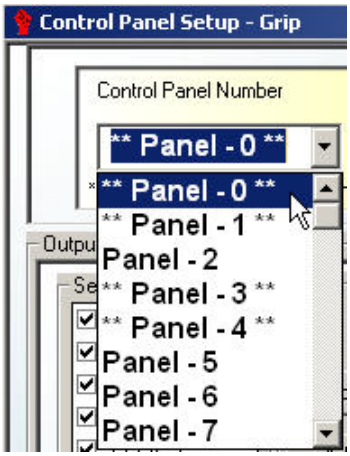


Clicking on the “Control Panel Setup/ General Settings” displays the following window and causes G.R.I.P. to poll the routing switcher for all panels, which are connected on the SVS control panel bus.

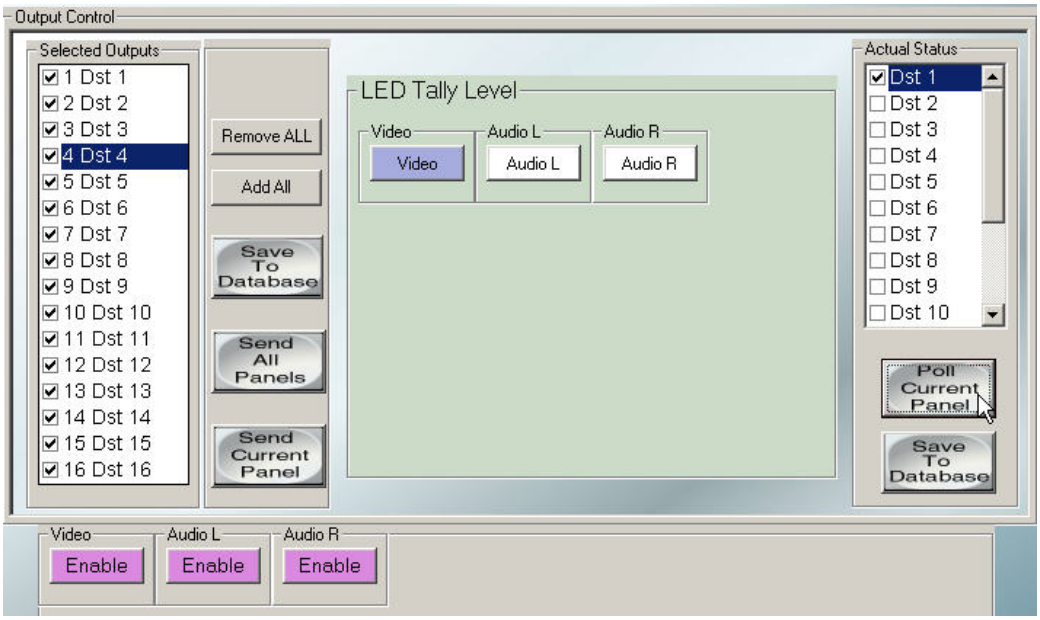


The “Control Panel Setup” window sets and reads the control panel settings of the routing switcher. Under the “Control Panel Number” list, ** denotes panels detected on the system.

Select the panel ID number for the panel whose status you want to view.



By pressing the “Poll Current Panel” button, G.R.I.P. sends to the routing switcher a request for panel output and level control status of the currently selected panel.

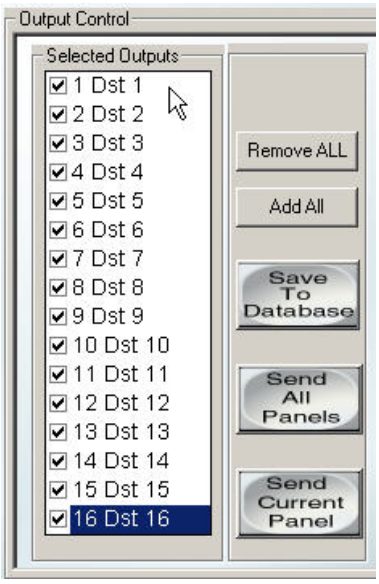


Outputs that are enabled are displayed in the **“Actual Panel Status”** window. The Level **“Enable/Disable”** buttons show and set the levels a panel will control.

If a box is checked in the **“Actual Panel Status”** window, this means the selected panel can control the **“Checked”** output. To block or un-block an output, click on the box next the output(s) listed in the Selected Outputs window.

“Remove All” removes all check marks from the Selected Outputs window.

“Add All” adds checks destinations in the Selected Outputs window.

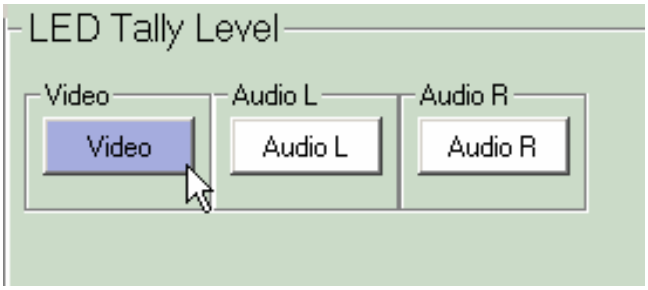


The Output Control window sends the selected outputs to be controlled, to the panel (when “Send Current Panel” is pressed).

The Actual Status window displays the current outputs that are controlled by the selected panel.

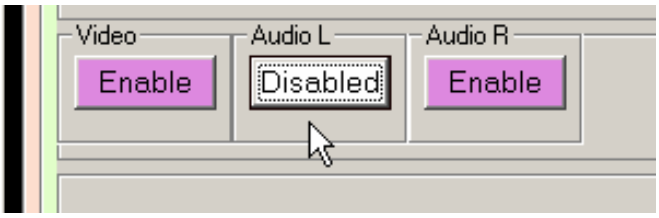
All SVS control panels can have outputs blocked, this allows the control panel to status an output, but prevents the panel from selecting inputs on that output.

The “LED Tally Level” selects which level a non SCP Pushbutton panel’s lamps will follow.

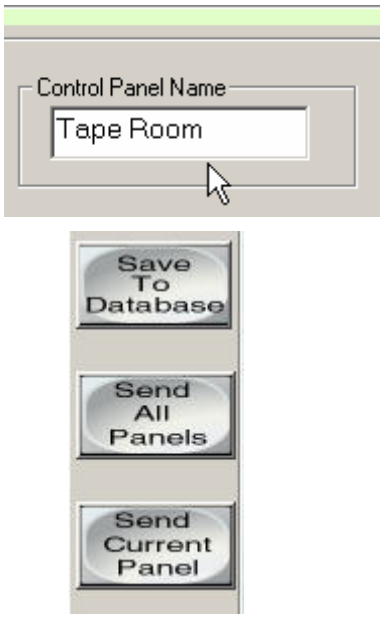


The Level buttons select which levels the panel will control.

Example; If the panel is to be a Video Only control panel, Disable all levels other than the Video level. When the panel is switched, only the Video level will change.



The panel can be named to indicate location if desired.



“Save to Database” saves the data in G.R.I.P. but not to the routing switcher or the control panel.

“Send Current Panel” downloads the current panel that is selected in the **“Control Panel Number”** frame.

The **“Send All Panels”** button downloads ALL the setups for ALL 64 control panels to the routing switcher.

After sending the Control Panel setup, press **“Poll Current Selected Panel”** to verify your settings before closing the window.

Chapter

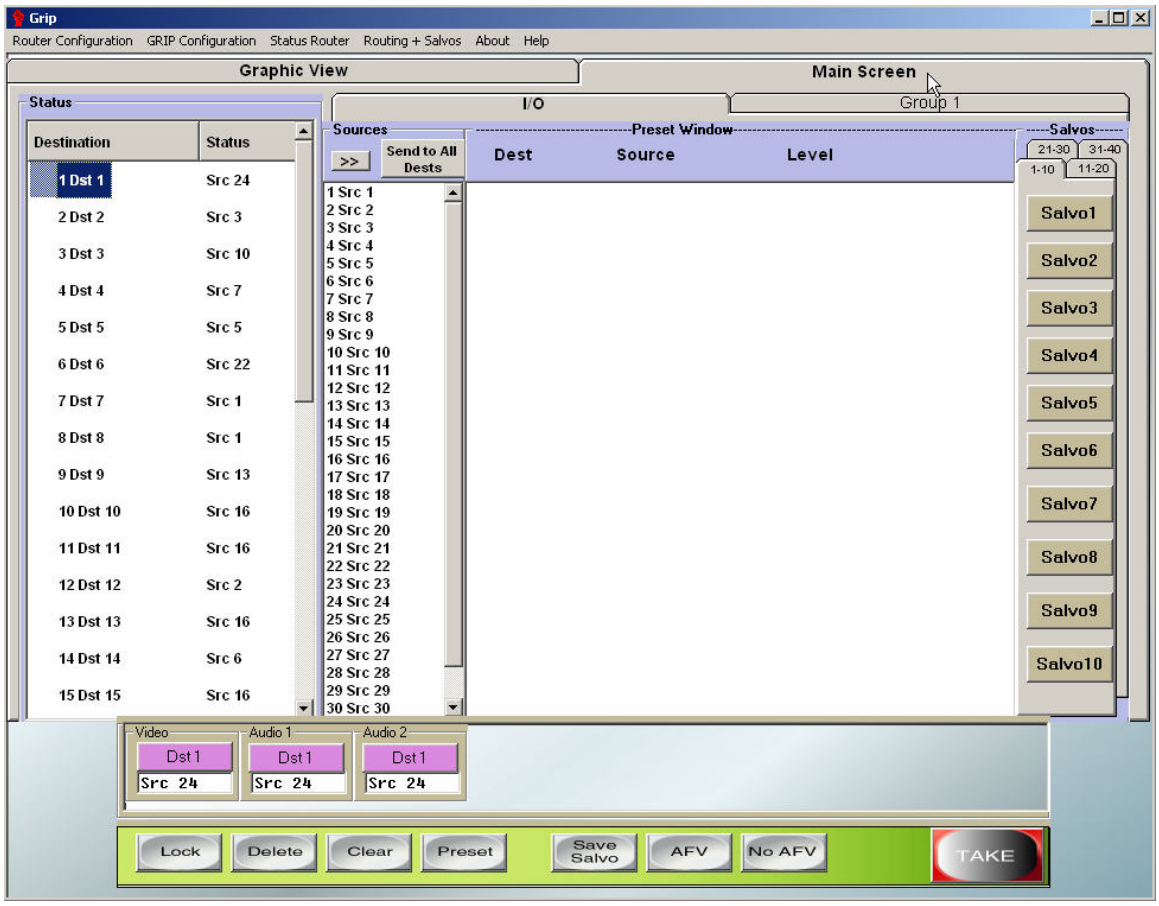
4

Operation

Introduction

Main Screen

The following is the GRIP Main Screen. Select the Main Screen tab at the top of the window. ToolTips have been used extensively throughout the software and by holding the mouse over most functions/buttons/windows; a tool tip will pop up after a few seconds.



By clicking on a “Destination” in the “Status” window, G.R.I.P. will send a command to Poll the routing switcher and place the status in the status window along with all level status shown in the textboxes in the Level windows (Labeled “Lvl 1”). By double clicking on a Destination in the status window, the destination is added to a “List” in the Preset window. This preset can be left in the preset window as long as desired. While selected in the preset window, Sources and Source levels can change on that destination until it is cleared from the Preset Window. Double clicking on an item in the preset window deletes the line. Clicking on “Clear”, clears all entries in the Preset Window.

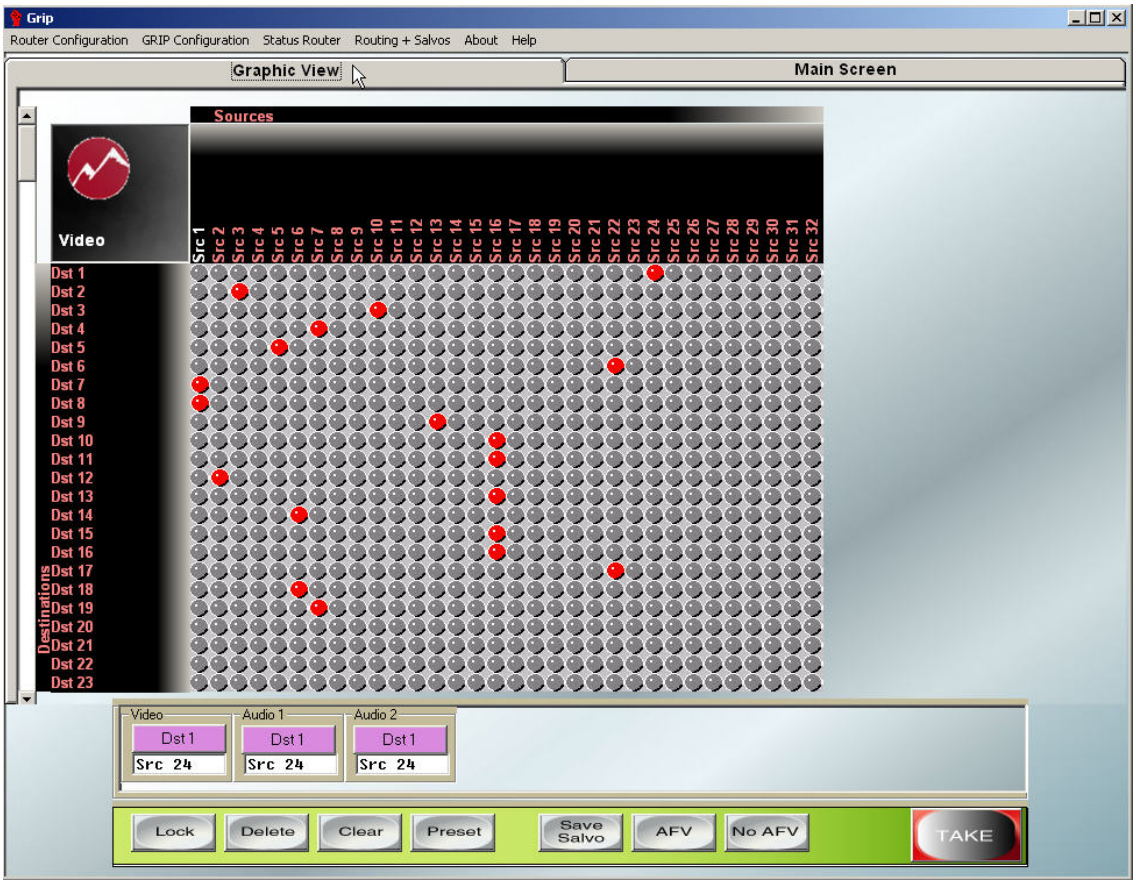
By using the Mouse click while holding down the Ctrl key or the Shift key, multiple destinations can be selected. Pressing on the “>>” button located in the “Sources” Frame moves all selected Destinations into the preset window. Selecting a Source and Pressing the “Send to all Dests” sends the selected Source to ALL Destinations in the preset window. This also can be accomplished by pressing the “A” key on the PC Keyboard.

Clicking on a Destination in the Preset window selects a Destination that can be modified with a different source or a single level source. A single level source change is sometimes called a “Breakaway” while an all level change is sometimes call an Audio Follow Video or “AFV” switch.

By selecting a Group Tab, the Destination and Source windows fill in specific Destination, Sources, and Levels, which are defined in the Group Setup window (see the “Room Grouping section of this manual).

Graphic View

Select the Graphic View tab at the top of the window. The following screen will display;

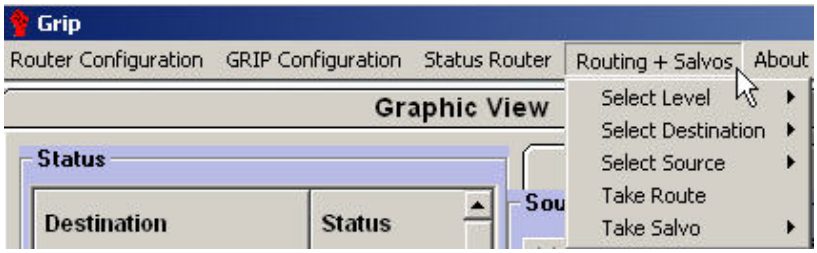


The Graphic View window displays the status of all I/Os. I/Os can be switched from this screen by clicking on the source button on the desired destination row.

Levels can be selected for “break-away” by clicking on the appropriate level buttons at the bottom of the screen.

Alternate switching method

The router can also be switched by selecting “Routing + Salvos” from the menu.



- Select the level(s) you want to change.
- Select the destination.
- Select the Source.
- Select “Take Route” to make the switch.

Stored Salvos can also be switched from this menu. Select the salvo from the drop down menu and “Take” (see the Salvo section of this manual for Salvo details).

Status Router

Clicking on “Status Router” will cause GRIP to request all I/O data from the router and update the Destination information in the Status column.

Salvos

Overview

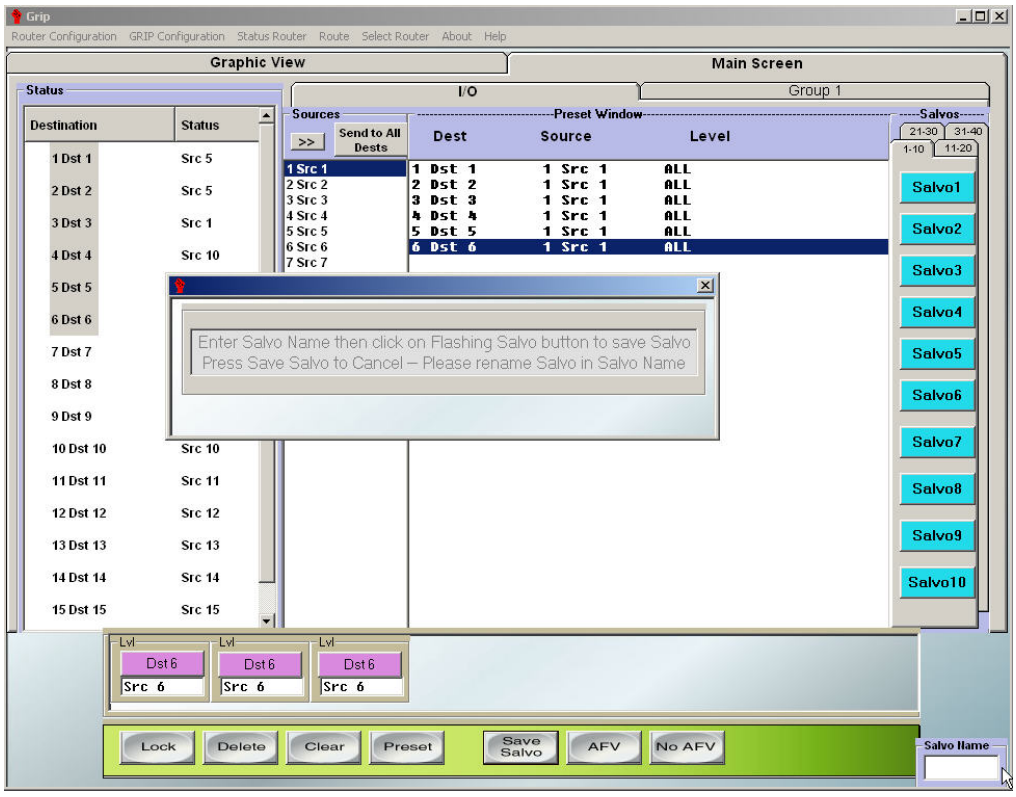
A Salvo is a list of crosspoint switches that are downloaded to the routing switcher and switched by a single “Salvo Take” command.

GRIP Software allows up to 40 Salvos to be named and stored in the routing switcher. The program is limited to 160 takes per salvo.

Salvo Setup

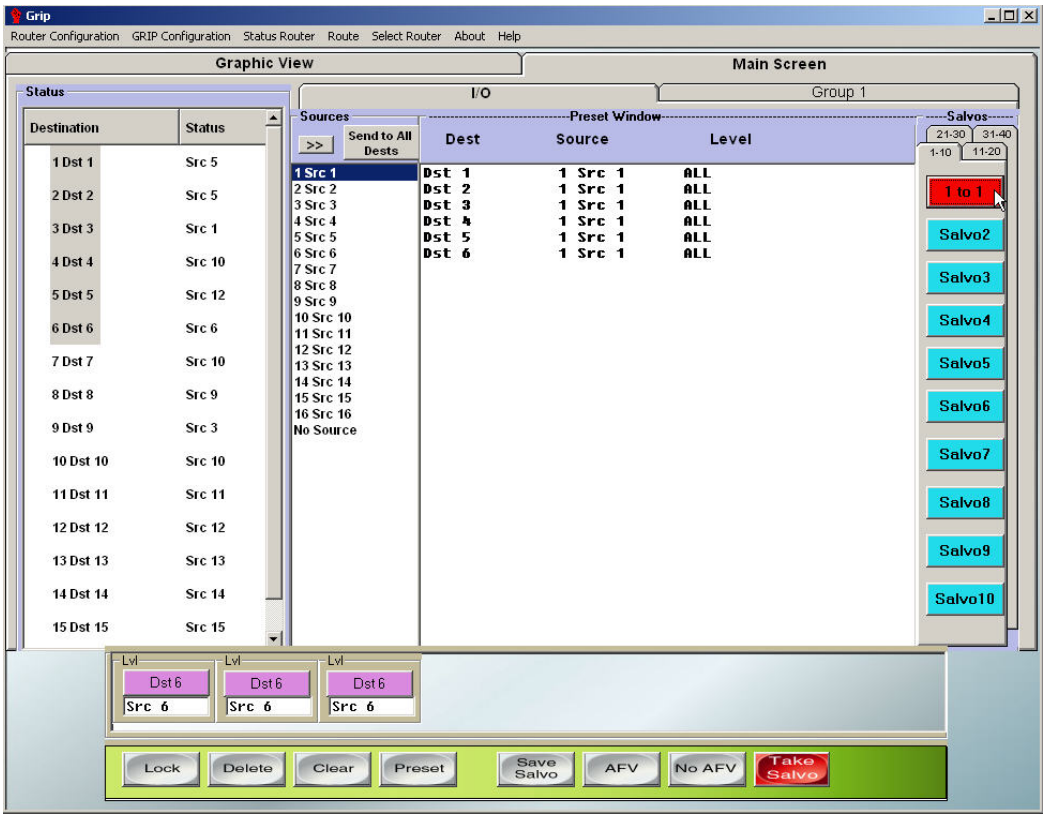
To program a salvo, enter the desired Destination/Source combinations in the preset window and click on the “Save Salvo” Button. All salvo buttons begin to flash between red and light blue, indicating a selection must be made. If a name is desired, type the name into the “Salvo Name” Textbox in the lower right hand corner of the window. Click on the desired flashing salvo button. The newly entered name is displayed on the salvo button,

the button stops flashing and the salvo is stored in the routing switcher and available to all control points of the routing system.



To exit the “Save Salvo” mode without saving, click on the “Clear” button.

The salvo name will be displayed in most control panels. For example, Salvo 1 in the example below is named “1 to 1”. This name will appear in all control panels capable of executing the “Salvo Take” command.



When “Press Take for a Salvo Take” is checked in the Configuration/ Options menu, the Salvo “list” will be displayed in the Preset window, and will remain after “Take Salvo” is pressed. Press “Clear” to clear the Preset window.

Locks

You may want to “Lock” a destination in order to prevent someone on the system from changing the source from another location.

By selecting a Destination in the Status Window and clicking on the “Lock” button, an individual selection will be locked which will be signified by a flashing lock (unlock) button and a Red and Black “L” displayed in the Status window. The “Lock” button changes to “Unlock”. To unlock a Destination, select the “Locked” Destination and press the “Unlock” button. The button will change back to normal.